

## *Cirolana chaloti* Bouvier (Isopoda, Cirolanidae), a long overlooked species from West Africa

by Niel L. BRUCE

**Abstract.** — Descriptive notes and figures are given for *Cirolana chaloti* Bouvier, 1901, a species overlooked by isopod workers in West Africa.

**Résumé.** — *Cirolana chaloti* Bouvier, 1901, est une espèce oubliée d'Isopode ouest-africain. Des notes descriptives et des figures en sont données ici d'après les deux syntypes.

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While attempting to locate the whereabouts of type specimens of marine cirolanids, I was sent a list of the holdings of the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle at Paris. This list included the name *Cirolana chaloti* Bouvier, a species I had never seen in the literature. BOUVIER's (1901) description was without figures, and so brief as to make species recognition impossible. Examination of two female syntypes revealed that *C. chaloti* is the species described by BRIAN and DARTEVELLE (1949) and referred to as *Cirolana* sp. MONOD (1976) described another *Cirolana* sp. from Togo, and gave figures of BRIAN and DARTEVELLE's specimens. As *Cirolana chaloti* has been totally overlooked by isopod workers in West Africa (e.g. MONOD, 1931 ; VAN NAME, 1920), a description of the diagnostic characters is given with figures.

### *Cirolana chaloti* Bouvier

(Figs. 1-9)

*Cirolana chaloti* Bouvier, 1901 : 396 ; BRUCE, 1981 : 950.

*Cirolana* sp., BRIAN & DARTEVELLE, 1949 : 111, figs 49-79 ; MONOD, 1976 : 157, figs 113, 115, 116.

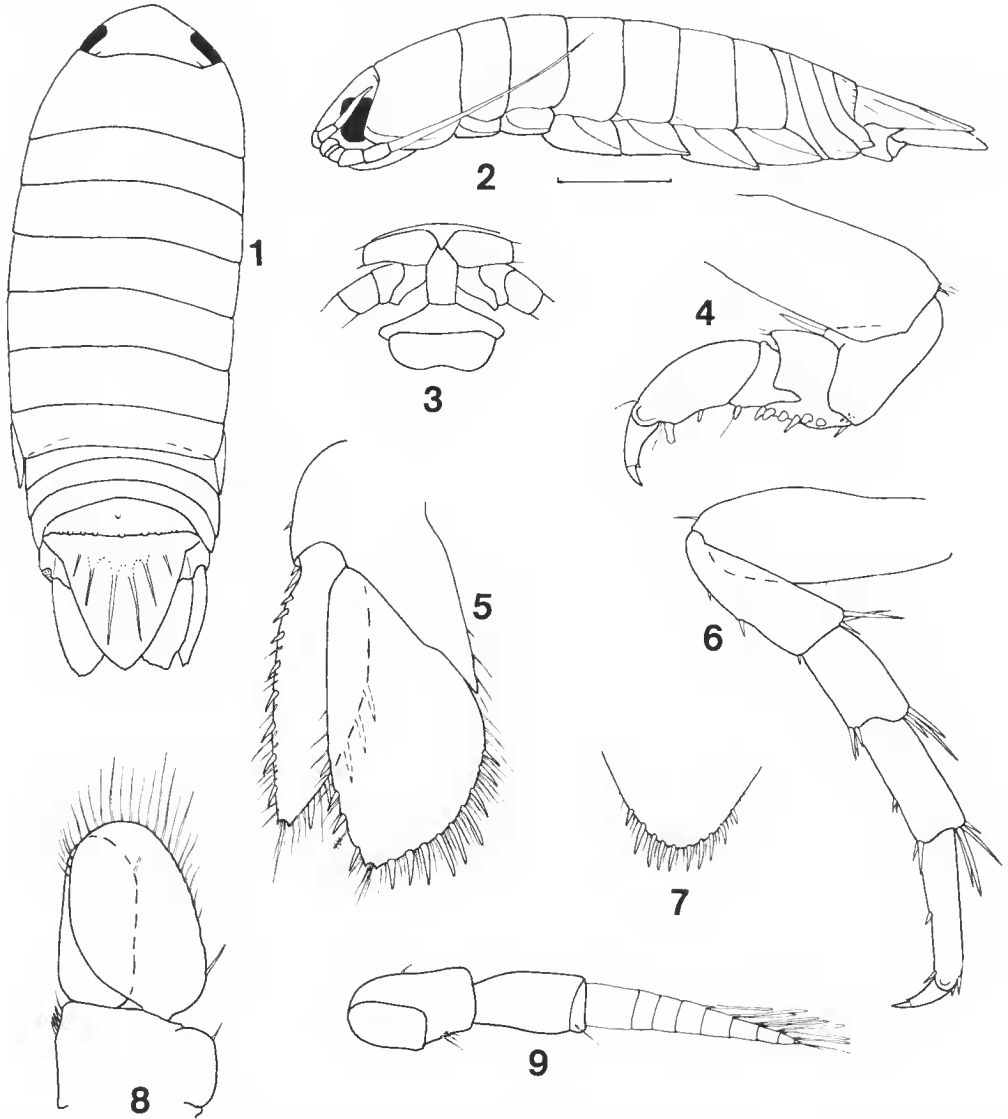
MATERIAL : 2 ♀ (5.6, 5.9 mm) syntypes, Libreville, Gabon, West Africa, coll. CHALOT. (MNHN, Reg. No. Is. 84.)

#### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

Cephalon with median rostral process. Coxal plates all with complete diagonal carina ; coxae of pereonites 5-7 extending beyond posterior of segment. Pleonite 1 totally concealed by pereonite 7 ; posterolateral margins of pleonite 4 produced beyond pleonite 5, with

slight projection of that part which lies below the horizontal impressed line ; dorsal surfaces of pleonite 5 with indistinct tubercles along posterior margin. Dorsal surface of pleotelson with 5 radiating carinae ; posterior margin with 10 prominent spines, between which lie 1 or 2 short plumose setae.

Pleopod 1 with endopod tapering towards apex, lateral margin concave. Exopods of pleopods 3-5 with transverse suture.



FIGS. 1-9. — *Cirolana chaloti*, 1 and 2, ♀ 5.6 mm ; 3 to 9, ♀ 5.9 mm : 1, dorsal view ; 2, lateral view ; 3, clypeal region ; 4, pereopod 1 ; 5, uropod ; 6, pereopod 7 ; 7, pleotelson, apex ; 8, pleopod 1 ; 9, antennule. (Scale line 1.0 mm.)

Uropods extend slightly beyond apex of pleotelson ; posterolateral angle of peduncle with 3 spines, lateral margin with 1. Exopod with 8 spines on lateral margin, 5 spines on medial margin. Endopod with 4 spines on lateral margin, 9 spines on medial margin. Both rami with marginal setae, and shallowly bifid apices.

REMARKS : These specimens correspond closely to the detailed description given by BRIAN and DARTEVELLE (1949). From their description the male has the appendix masculina extending slightly beyond the endopod, and paired penes are present on sternite 7. The species is immediately recognisable by the unique pleotelson sculpting which separates *C. chaloti* from all other species of the genus. MONOD's (1976) *Cirolana* sp. from Togo has an unornamented pleotelson, and has far more spines on the uropods and posterior border of the pleotelson.

DISTRIBUTION : From Gabon to northern Angola.

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